



# GABON



## INTRODUCTION

Gabon became independent from France in 1960. Despite constrained political conditions, Gabon's small population, abundant natural resources, and considerable foreign support have helped make it one of the more stable African countries.

## GOVERNMENT

### Chief of State

President Ali BONGO Ondimba

### Head of Government

Prime Minister Rose Christiane Ossouka RAPONDA

### Government Type

presidential republic

### Capital

Libreville

### Legislature

bicameral Parliament consists of the Senate (102 seats) and the National Assembly (143 seats)

## GEOGRAPHY

### Area

Total: 267,667 sq km  
Land: 257,667 sq km  
Water: 10,000 sq km

### Climate

tropical; always hot, humid

### Natural Resources

petroleum, natural gas, diamond, niobium, manganese, uranium, gold, timber, iron ore, hydropower

## ECONOMY

### Economic Overview

natural resource-rich, upper-middle-income, Central African economy; sparsely populated but high urbanization; young labor force; oil, manganese, and rubber exporter; foreign investment dependent; data integrity issue on poverty and income

**GDP (Purchasing Power Parity)** \$32.05 billion (2020 est.)

**GDP per capita (Purchasing Power Parity)** \$14,400 (2020 est.)

**Industries** - petroleum extraction and refining, manganese, gold, chemicals, ship repair, food and beverages, textiles, lumbering and plywood, cement

**Agricultural products** - plantains, cassava, sugarcane, yams, taro, vegetables, maize, groundnuts, game meat, rubber

**Exports** \$10.8 billion (2019 est.)

crude petroleum, manganese, lumber, veneer sheeting, refined petroleum (2019)

**partners:** China 63%, Singapore 5% (2019)

**Imports** \$5.02 billion (2019 est.)

poultry meats, excavation machinery, packaged medicines, cars, rice (2019)

**partners:** France 22%, China 17%, Belgium 6%, US 6%, UAE 5% (2019)

## PEOPLE & SOCIETY

### Population

2.3 million (July 2021 est.)

### Population Growth

2.41% (2021 est.)

### Ethnicity

Gabonese-born 80.1%, (includes Fang 23.2%, Shira-Punu/Vili 18.9%, Nzabi-Duma 11.3%, Mdede-Teke 6.9%, Myene 5%, Kota-Kele 4.9%, Okande-Tsogo 2.1%, other 7.8%), foreign-born 18.3%, acquired Gabonese nationality 1.6% (2012)

### Language

French (official), Fang, Myene, Nzabi, Bapounou/Eschira, Bandjabi

### Religion

Roma Catholic 42.3%, Protestant 12.3%, other Christian 27.4%, Muslim 9.8%, animist 0.6%, other 0.5%, none/no answer 7.1% (2012 est.)

